AMENDMENTS FOR THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1.   (Currently amended) Method for adjusting an embedded portion of a television signal comprising:

receiving the television signal having the embedded portion;

detecting the embedded portion of the television signal; and

adjusting the embedded portion, where a downstream receiver ~~effects no change on a displayed video upon decoding~~ is prevented from processing the adjusted embedded portion.

2.   (Original) The method of claim 1 further comprising:

providing the television signal having the adjusted embedded portion to the downstream receiver.

3.   (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein said receiving, detecting and adjusting are performed in a set top terminal.

4.   (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the downstream receiver comprises a television receiver.

5.   (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the embedded portion comprises line 21 information of the television signal.

6.   (Original) The method of claim 1 further comprising:

demodulating the received television signal if the television signal is a digital television signal.

7.   (Original) The method of claim 1 further comprising:

decoding the received television signal if the television signal is an analog television signal.

8.   (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein said providing comprises:

modulating the television signal into a NTSC television signal.

9.   (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the embedded portion comprises closed captioning information.

10.   (Original) The method of claim 9 wherein said adjusting comprises:

determining whether to provide closed caption information on said displayed video; and

removing closed captioning information from the television signal if said determining is to provide closed caption.

11.   (Original) The method of claim 9 wherein said adjusting comprises:

determining whether to provide closed caption information on said displayed video; and

passing closed captioning information in the television signal if said determining fails to provide closed caption, where a downstream receiver may provide closed captioning information upon decoding the television signal.

12.   (Original) The method of claim 9 further comprising:

decoding said detected closed caption information to generate graphics information; and

applying said graphics information to said displayed video.

13.   (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the embedded portion comprises V-chip rating information.

14.   (Original) The method of claim 13 wherein said adjusting comprises:

determining whether to block the television signal based on the identified V-chip rating information; and

modifying the identified V-chip rating information to a universally unblocked rating if said determining is to pass the television signal.

15.   (Original) The method of claim 13 wherein said adjusting comprises:

determining whether to block the television signal based on the identified V-chip rating information; and

modifying the identified V-chip rating information to a universally blocked rating if said determining is to block the television signal.

16.   (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the embedded portion comprises a timestamp of a recorded video program.

17.   (Original) The method of claim 16 wherein said adjusting comprises:
removing said timestamp from the television signal.

18.   (Currently amended) An apparatus for adjusting an embedded portion of a television signal comprising:

a demodulator for demodulating a received television signal to a baseband television signal comprising an embedded portion; and

a processor, coupled to said demodulator, for detecting and adjusting said embedded portion of said baseband television signal, where a downstream receiver ~~effects no change on a displayed video upon decoding~~ is prevented from processing the adjusted embedded portion.

19.   (Currently amended) A system for preventing a conflict in displayed video among a plurality of receivers comprising:

a first receiver for receiving the television signal and adjusting the embedded portion of the television signal; and

a second receiver, coupled downstream from said first receiver, for decoding the embedded portion adjusted by said first receiver, where said second receiver ~~effects no change on a displayed video upon decoding~~ is prevented from processing the adjusted embedded portion.

20.   (Currently amended) A computer readable medium storing a software program that, when executed by a computer, causes the computer to perform a method comprising:

receiving a television signal having an embedded portion;

detecting said embedded portion of said television signal; and

adjusting said embedded portion, where a downstream receiver ~~effects no change on a displayed video upon decoding~~ is prevented from processing the adjusted embedded portion.